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The



People.

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GUARD THE BALLOT!

Further Instances of the Con-
spiracy to Disfranchise the
Working Class.

IF NOT BALLOTS, BULLETS.

Review of the Primary "Reform" Laws
that are Just Now Being Proposed in
Several States of the Union—Also of
the New York Proposed Biennial
Legislature Constitutional Amend-
ment—All Underhanded Ways to Pilfer
the Ballot out of the Workers' Hands
—Silver Bug South Carolina and Mis-
sissippi Have Already Disfranchised
the Workers, Now the Gold Bug North
is at Work to the Same End.

More than once has attention been
called in these columns to the signs that
denote a positive and organized at-
tempt on the part of the capitalist class
to deprive the working class of the
ballot. More signs are coming in.

These fresh signs are the proposed
primary "reform" bills that are appear-
ing in New York and other States, and
the New York bill for biennial sessions.
These primary bills are so constructed
that the secrecy of the ballot, con-
sidered to be necessary if the work-
ingman is to have a free expression of
political convictions, is to a great ex-
tent impaired.

In the first place, only those work-
ingmen who hang on the skirts of cap-
italist parties can with impunity par-
ticipate in the proposed primaries. In
such primaries no one is to participate,
who does not openly enter himself in
the registration lists as a supporter of
the party in whose primaries he wishes
to take part. Accordingly, if the work-
ingman wants to participate in a labor
party, he must announce so publicly,
or that party can have no ticket in the
field. It follows from this that the
secrecy of the ballot is to all intents
and purposes demolished. Unless work-
ers are ready to run the risks, that a
secret ballot is intended to protect them
against, the workingmen can have no
ticket of their own choice to vote for;
they are placed to the alternative of
not voting at all, or of voting for par-
ties they don't want, there being no
others in the field. What is this but
disfranchisement?

In the second place, the proposed
primary laws fix the hours of enroll-
ment so that they cover to a large ex-
tent the time the workingman is at
work, and, as primary enrollment days
are not holidays, the capitalist class
has full swing and the working class
is hampered. When a small army is
confronted by a large one, it is a strate-
gic move for the small one to put it-
self in a defile; in that way the num-
bers of the larger army that are in ex-
cess of the smaller are virtually elimi-
nated from the battle; only a force
equal to that of the smaller one pro-
tected by the defile is able to oppose it.
The battle becomes more equal. This is
what the provision amounts to that
limits the primary registration time
to virtually working hours. The work-
ingmen are the overwhelming majority.
The capitalist class wishes to reduce
the fighting size of this army; its pri-
mary provision accomplishes for it
what the protection of a defile accom-
plishes for a small army fighting
against a larger one. This may be
shrewd tactics, but they should be un-
derstood by the workers.

Finally, there comes the proposed bi-
ennial bill of New York. According to
it the Legislature is to meet only once
every two years, and this will neces-
sitate a change in the election of As-
semblymen. Now they are elected every
year; if the biennial plan goes through,
they will be elected only once every two
years; which is the same as to say that
every other year the workingmen will
be disfranchised from voting for As-
semblymen. The capitalists could not
vote either, 'tis true. But there again
the defile strategy comes in. As things
are going on, the capitalists fear every
year to have seats taken away from
them. If the battle can be waged at
longer intervals, then their small forces
would every other year be equal to the
larger ones of the workers, in that the
latter could not conquer them, not be-
ing allowed a chance to fight.

The straight forward disfranchise-
ment of the working class was attempt-
ed, but had to be abandoned. Its
openness raised too loud a hue and
cry. Since then the campaign to dis-
franchise has been conducted in the
above surreptitious ways, to wit:

The next best thing to no ballot in
the workers' hands, is to diminish the
opportunities to wield the ballot. In-
stead of an election every year, elec-
tions are to be made few and far be-
tween. In pursuit of this conspiracy
the terms of offices are being made
longer and longer; biennial sessions of
the Legislatures are coming in; and we
may be ready for triennial, quadri-
ennial, etc., Legislatures.

Again, if the ballot cannot be boldly
taken from the workers, such law
may be passed as will accomplish the

same thing by a back door. The pri-
mary reforms that are proposed are in-
tended to do that. What is the differ-
ence between a disfranchised work-
ing class and a working class that nomi-
nally has the ballot, but is so hampered
that it cannot set up a ticket of its
own? None.

Let the working class allow them-
selves to be fooled and led by the nose
much longer by the labor fakirs, and
kept from joining the Socialist Labor
party, and they will be confronted with
the alternative that confronts their fel-
low wage-slaves in many a European
country: either absolute submission
and slavery, or physical uprising.

Where the ballot is silenced, the bul-
let must speak.

With the first issue of next April,
April 3, the price of THE PEOPLE will
be reduced from \$1 to 50 cents a year;
six months 25 cents; 3 months 15 cents;
single copies 2 cents.



CANADA'S MAIDEN VOTE.

She Wheels in Line With the Inter-
national S. L. P. Movement.

LONDON, Ont., March 7.—Canada
now for the first time takes a place on
the statistical roll of the International
Socialist Labor party. At the official
count in the office of the Sheriff of Mid-
dlesex (returning officer for the con-
stituency of London, Ont.), the follow-
ing vote was recorded for the candidate
of the S. L. P. to the Legislative As-
sembly of Ontario, as a result of the
election in this city on March 1st, 1898.

Henry B. Ashplant (candidate of S.
L. P.), 126.

The vote was distributed as follows:

	Votes.
Ward 1	12
Ward 2	12
Ward 3	31
Ward 4	17
Ward 5	38
Ward 6	15
Total	126

There are 40 sub-divisions in the 6
wards in the city, and it is one of the
most significant features of the official
record that the S. L. P. ticket has votes
recorded in no less than 35 of the sub-
divisions, showing that our six days'
propaganda covered the city effectively.

The vote of 126 is over three times the
strength of our Section at time of nomi-
nation; and in view of the conditions
under which the vote was taken (as
noted in THE PEOPLE March 6th) we
feel that Section London has scored a
victory in Canada for the cause of the
international solidarity of S. L. P. prin-
ciples that can only be correctly ap-
preciated by those who know all the
truth regarding our obstacles and the
nature of our opposition.

Watch it grow!

R. R. Co's. INSURANCE DEPART- MENT.

One of the Schemes by Which Capitalists
make their Steals.

PORT RICHMOND, L. I., March 8.—
Until recently the ferry which connects
this town with Bergen Point, N. J., was
the property of the Pennsylvania R. R.
Co. It is now owned by the Consoli-
dated Traction Co.

The Penn. R. R. Co. has in operation
an insurance department for the "ben-
efit" of its employees. It is called the
Voluntary Relief Association. Mem-
bership in it is not compulsory, but
the members of it are given the prefer-
ence in all times and otherwise favored. If
a member leaves the service of the com-
pany or is discharged he forfeits the
premiums paid.

The employees of the ferry here were
members of the association. With the
sale of the ferry was severed their con-
nection with the Penn. R. R.; conse-
quently loss of membership in the as-
sociation and forfeiture of money paid
in.

Of course the ferrymen see no parallel
in their "transfer" to the Consolidated
Traction Co. and the sale of a chattel
slave. They are "free" to "select" their
own master; while the slave had no say
in the matter.

All the great railroads are taking up
the insurance department scheme. That
of the B. & O. is, I am told, compulsory.
The companies not only find this
scheme an excellent thing to keep the
wage slaves docile, but a paying invest-
ment as well. This is about the way it
works: A man is insured say for \$1,000;
during the year the company keeps out
of his wages say \$25, half of which is
turned over to the insurance company,
with which the railroad company does
business; the other half the railroad
company keeps as payment for "collect-
ing." The insurance company then
gives the railroad company a \$1,250
policy; the railroad company in turn
writes a policy of its own to the in-
sured for \$1,000, so that when a mem-
ber dies the railroad company makes
\$250.

Great are the schemes by which the
capitalist makes his steals!
ONE OF THE "INSURED."

THE NEW SPIRIT.

Events in New Bedford that Mark a
New Era.

Gompers Turns up Again, is Again
Challenged and Runs off Once More—
Is now Known in New Bedford as
"Mr. Go"—Cheers upon Cheers for the
S. L. P. and the S. T. & L. A.—Hickey's
Work.

NEW BEDFORD, March 5.—The
comrades here are full of joy. That for
which we have long worked is finally
accomplished: the masses of our New
Bedford working class are at last
leavened by the spirit of New Trade
Unionism and of the Socialist Labor
party. Let me sum up the situation.

About three weeks ago, Mr. Samuel
Gompers came here with intent to cap-
ture us for his pure and simple dead
ship. We challenged him, and he ran
away; then came the meetings ad-
dressed by Comrade De Leon and the
organization of three Socialist Trade
and Labor Alliances of Weavers and
Spinners. The stream set in our direc-
tion. Thereupon Mr. Gompers, who
now goes around here by the name of
Mr. Go (you will presently see why),
thought the coast clear and again
turned up here. He ran right into the
clutches of Comrade Hickey who was
then on the grounds. We again chal-
lenged Mr. Go, and he again ran away.

The first time his excuse was he had
to catch a train for Pittsburg, which
turned out to be false; his excuse this
time was that he had to catch a train for
Boston, equally false. He left the hall
amidst the hootings of the big audience.
As every time he had to go, he is now
called "Mr. Go."

This afternoon the "Arm and Ham-
mer" fell heavy. Between this strike
and the next, pure and simple, we
have been crushed. We organized a
fourth Alliance—a mixed L. A. with
twenty-one men.

Comrade Hickey's last words: "The
next strike in New Bedford must be
conducted by the S. T. & L. A." was
not met with applause; that was not
strong enough to express the approval
of the audience; it was responded to
with cheer upon cheer for the Socialist
Labor party and for the Socialist Trade
and Labor Alliance.

The occurrence was an eye-opener to
all of us.

NOT GOMPERS BUT GOMPERISM.

Sunday's Mass Meeting for New Bedford
Strikers in New York.

Under the auspices of the Woman's
Branch, Socialist Labor Party, Section
Greater New York, a mass meeting was
held last Sunday in the Grand Central
Palace in behalf of the New Bedford
strikers. A band performed, the Lie-
dertafel sang, and Comrades Carless,
Forker and De Leon spoke. The sum
of \$50 was raised.

The occasion brought out clearly the
attitude of the party on an important
matter.

Time was when the party's feelings
were turned against itself. The desire
to aid the proletariat in all its strug-
gles had caused it to be deceived by
appearances and to render aid where
the struggle was only seemingly against
but in fact in favor of the capitalist
class. Experience had shown the dif-
ference between strike and strike.
Strikes that are instigated by capital-
ists so as to get rid of their surplus
goods, strikes that are instigated by
shyster lawyers to have a chance to
draw up contracts to the tune of \$2 a
piece, strikes that are instigated by la-
bor fakirs to get a chance to rake in
dues—none of such strikes is a mani-
festation of the class struggle of the
proletariat. They are all conducted un-
der the banner of capital. To aid such
strikes with money would be a stupid-
ity on the part of the S. L. P. All that
would thereby be accomplished would
be to deprive the party of funds for
agitation; it would be to throw away
money; and nothing could suit the cap-
italists better.

The New Bedford strike, however, is
a bona fide strike; the spirit that pre-
vails there is a healthy spirit. To sup-
port such a strike with funds is proper
and wise; it is a way to knock down
Gompersism, and Gompersism means cap-
italism, being a bulwark of capitalism.

The Woman's Branch of Section New
York justified its existence by calling
a meeting for such purpose.

The English translation of Karl
Marx' "Eighteenth Brumaire," that re-
cently ran through THE PEOPLE, is
now to be had bound in an elegant vol-
ume of 78 pages, with Marx' picture as
frontispiece. This work is of great
value. No Socialist, even though he be
no student, and no student even though
he be no Socialist, can afford to be with-
out it. Apply Labor News Co., 64 E.
4th street, N. Y. city. Price 25 cents.

The receipt of a sample copy of this
paper is an invitation to subscribe.

OPEN LETTER.

To Carroll D. Wright, Advocate of the
Religion of Capital.

Rejected by the Boston "Globe"—The
False Reasoning, False Statements
and Duplicité of a Statistical Lackey
of the Capitalist Class Laid Bare—His
"Religion," and What Thereby Hangs,
Likewise Dissected.

MANCHESTER, N. H., Feb. 16.
Sir—In looking over the "Globe" the
other day I noticed that you addressed
a large audience in the First Universa-
list Church, of Lynn, Mass., on the eve-
ning of Feb. 7th, and having read very
carefully such portions of said address
as the paper gives, I herewith take this
opportunity to answer to certain state-
ments which you uttered in regard to
industrial conditions and the attitude
of the Socialist Labor party, of which I
am proud to be a member.

I consider that some of the statements
which you made were absurd, and I
think that anyone who studies the
questions will agree with me. Accord-
ing to the reporter there were "many
prominent people present." Perhaps
the reason you adopted such a line of
argument was owing to the fact that
your "solution of the labor question,"
as you term it, was especially applicable
to that certain class known as "promi-
nent" people. You certainly could not
have been "catering" to the laboring
class when you uttered such rank state-
ments concerning existing conditions,
and the purposes and principles of the
Socialist movement.

You are quoted as saying in part: "If
industrial conditions necessitate, in the
opinion of employing capital, a reduc-
tion of wages, this REDUCTION should
be RESTORED when business condi-
tions allow."

Do you mean this statement as you
say it, or do you mean that the FOR-
MER SCALE of wages should be re-
stored? We hear, once in a while, of
some employer restoring the scale of
wages which were paid before the re-
duction, although even this does not
happen very often, but who has ever
heard of the reduction being restored—
that is the amount which the employees
lost during the time the reduction was
in effect? That would be restoring the
reduction, and if done, there would be
no strikes or labor troubles. I hardly
think that if it was necessary for the
employer to cut down wages to meet
some great competition, and it was
agreed that the employees should re-
ceive the amount of the reduction when
business conditions allowed, that there
would be much kicking by the workers.
The reason they kick at the present
time is because they are continually
being cut down, and do not even have
the former scale of wages restored when
business grows brighter, let alone the
restoration of the reduction, while the
income of the employer remains the
same, or increases, as the case may be,
generally the latter.

You next say that "confidential rela-
tions should be established between the
two parties to production, and if this
could be brought about it would con-
siderably soften the present struggle
between capital and labor."

Very true; but do you really think
that it can be brought about under the
existing industrial system? Under this
competitive system it is not policy for
the capitalist to take the laborer into
his confidence for the simple reason
that it is not to his private interest to
do so; therefore, if any "confidential
relation" does exist, it must necessarily
be one-sided or not at all.

Here is another illustration of the
where-am-I-at style of your address;
you emphatically declare that "you may
raise wages as high as you will, I care
not to what extent, and you cannot re-
move the struggle; it will always exist!"

And in the beginning you acknowl-
edge the reduction of wages to be the
trouble and advocate the advancement
of wages as the remedy. Which of
these statements are the people to
swallow as the proper medicine?

Just what you mean when you state
that "the tendency of wages is upward
and the cost of things is downward,"
at the present time, I fail to see, as here
in Manchester it is somewhat the re-
verse, and I don't think this city an ex-
ception as regards the present condi-
tions. Is it possible that you can
make such an assertion right in the face
of the fact that throughout the country
a large percentage of the factories and
corporations have cut wages from 10 to
25 per cent, and that food, meats and
other necessities of life bring higher
prices than they did one year ago? If
you are not ignorant of these things
(and a statistician had not ought to be),
then you must be trying to rub the fur
of the "prominent" people, who listened
to your address, the right way. There
are some people whose interests de-
mand that they believe or profess to be-
lieve such statements as that, and there
are some too ignorant or careless to
question the truth of it, but there also
some who know by experience that it is

not so, and will not allow it to be re-
presented as the truth if in their power
to prevent.

This latter class is composed mainly
of those who believe in the Socialist
doctrine, which you say is nothing more
than a "criticism of modern methods,
without prescribing any remedy for the
faults which, it is alleged, exist in our
social system." If Socialism is a "criti-
cism" of the present system, and does
not give any remedy, why do you pre-
scribe religion as the ONLY remedy
when the Encyclopedia-Britannica and
other good authorities claim that "The
ethics of Socialism are identical with
the ethics of Christianity?" You also
claim that Socialism means the rankest
injustice and immorality. I claim that
it aims for a truer justice than at
present, as well as a higher standard of
morals, as its vital principle, "every
man according to his deeds," goes to
show. Then you go on to say that "it
is unfair and immoral, because it gives
equal pay for unequal services; that it
means the disintegration of the family,
the retrogression of the human
race, and the degradation of the uni-
verse."

Next, you show that the workingman
needs MORE justice, that he must have
a LARGER share of the comforts and
pleasures, which it is his right to have,
as it is his labor which produces all of
them. Only you advocate that a "margin
exist above the iron law of wages"
(which you say "has already been
raised from 10 to 15 per cent.") while
Socialism demands that the system be
so changed that every man receive every
unit of what his own labor produces.
That is justice, as Socialists see it, and
as the Bible teaches it. They demand
that the government be run by the
WHOLE people, for the WHOLE
people, instead of, by and for a few,
then, and not before, can we say, there
is justice done to every man.

If the co-operative commonwealth
would be unjust and immoral, because
it would give equal pay for unequal
services, it would be no worse than a
system that allows the piling up of a
fortune by a man who does nothing,
and leaves a mere pittance for the one
whose labor produces everything. But
it wants no such thing, it simply wants
the laborer to get the whole value of
what his labor produces. And this is
unjust, immoral, is it?

If it causes the disintegration of the
family, what does the present competi-
tive system do in that respect, when it
forces the members of the family to
compete with one another for a job?
When it forces the child into the sweat-
shops and mills, shut up in close apart-
ments, when it ought to be at school,
wearing its young life away, or learning
crime and vice, and in a great many
cases taking the job out of his father's
hands, so to speak, because it can do
the work cheaper. This does not cause
a breaking up of family ties, does it?
Oh, no! this is justice, certainly!

You prescribe religion as the ONLY
remedy to straighten these difficulties,
regardless of the fact that it has held
sway over all civilized countries of the
world, and still the conditions are rap-
idly growing worse. Such religion as
you have in mind caused more blood-
shed than anything else since the foun-
dation of the world, and will continue
to do so, for the reason of the difference
of the creeds. It causes a division
among the workingmen to-day, for the
same reason. If there was a universal
religion, it would accomplish much, and
that is the principle of Socialism, the
brotherhood of man, that Christ
preached on earth nearly two thousand
years ago, that your Religion of Cap-
ital denies. He was ridiculed and per-
secuted and killed by the wealth-grab-
bing Jews of that day, and every advo-
cate of right and justice has suffered a
like treatment, in past history.

The so-called religion of to-day, and
which you recommend, is one great big
humbug; ministers with fat salaries,
churches that cost millions upholding
a style too expensive for the common
people, and in the midst of all this
luxury, thousands are starving every
year. I admire the spirit of Wendell
Phillips when he replied to those who
called him a traitor and an infidel, with
these words: "I am a traitor to a coun-
try where justice is not shown, and an
infidel to a church that can be at peace
in the midst of sin."

Religion, as preached to-day, cannot
better the condition of the working
people, because it upholds the competi-
tive system which keeps them in wage
slavery.

Dr. Henry K. Carrol, special agent
of church statistics, gives the number
of church members to be 26,611,781 in
the United States in 1893. Just think!
over twenty millions! Why, if the So-
cialist movement had twenty million
followers, there would be more effect
shown on the condition of the working
men in one year than there has been
by your religion in two thousand years.

You say, "there should be no conten-
tment, except of a kind that means
that we are content that the world is
progressing"; you mean,—of a kind
that means that we are content to see
a few who run the world to-day, pro-
gressing, and thank God that we are
permitted to live and witness it.

The only way to bring about a right
state of affairs is to throw aside all
race and "religious" prejudices, and
vote for the abolition of the present
competitive dog-eat-dog industrial and
social system, and the substitution of
the co-operative commonwealth, the
true brotherhood of man, which should
be the religion of the world, in which
all would work together in harmony
for the promotion of the welfare of the
human race, having as its motto:—
"Each for all, and all for each," broth-
ers in the full sense of the word, from
the fact that, although they may not
be born of the same mother, yet, they
are all created by the same just God.

D. C. DOW.

Take Notice.

20 copies of current issue for every
copy of THE PEOPLE of August 16th,
1896. Needed to complete files.

THE PEOPLE

Can be had hereafter from any new
dealer in

Greater New York

on FRIDAY morning. See that your news-
dealer gives it a prominent place on his
stand.

CHICAGO: PUBLISHED BY THE PEOPLE.

"FREEDOM" - "HONOR"

The Exhibition that Capitalism is Making
of its Virtues.

Just as Soon as Political Leaders, Once
Admired, Interfere with the Sale of
Papers, the Journals turn upon Them
—Just as Soon as a War Will take
Money out of the Country, War-Ship
Builders Become Pacific.

The attitude of the New York cap-
italist press on the Ellsworth bill, and
the attitude of our shipbuilders, im-
mediately after the news that Congress
was to appropriate some ten millions to
build war ships, are two ingots from
one quarry. They may seem different,
yet are they one.

Only the other day, one set of our
capitalist journals was in hysterics with
indignation at Croker, and was setting
up Tom Platt as the paragon of politi-
cal purity and freedom; while another
set of them equally hysterically de-
nounced Platt, and clung to Croker as
the "Rock of Ages." Now, of a sudden,
what do we see? The former lovers of
Croker have turned a somersault and
violently agree with his former "de-
famers" that he is no good; and the
former doters on Platt have veered
around and are at one with his former
"traducers" in pronouncing him unfit.
Both sets now agree that neither Platt
nor Croker is a saviour of freedom.

Why is this thus?
Answer:—The Ellsworth bill forbids
the papers to publish photographs, and,
of course, caricatures, etc., without the
consent of people so photographed, etc.
This is a serious blow to our journals;—
and Croker and Platt favor the bill.
Much of the attraction of these papers
lies in the "pictures" of people they get
up. The pockets of these newspaper
men are touched by the bill favored by
their former ideals; and their pockets
being the seat of their morals, we see
them now not only strutting about as
paladins of the "freedom of the press,"
but cutting the wonderful political
capers above described.

Now to our war-ship builders.

Among the "patriots" who wanted by
all means to avenge the honor of our
dead marines in the harbor of Havana
the war-ship builders were prominent.
Visions of fat contracts for ships hov-
ered over their heads and lulled them
into sweetest slumber at night. Other
"patriots" there were—the speculators
in food, ammunition, guns and other
requisites for war—also indignant over
the Spaniard, and insisted that the
national honor demanded war, but our
war-ship builders "patriotically" fanned
the war flame with greatest zeal.
"War!" "War!" "War!" they cried; one
would imagine that their patriotic fer-
vor demanded an immediate declara-
tion of war. Now, all of a sudden, what
do we see? These war-ship builders,
who, just before were so hot for war,
now want "moderation." "War by all
means," say they; "our national honor
requires it; our murdered soldiers de-
mand it; but not so fast—let us first
build up our battle ships; moderation,
moderation;" etc., etc.

Why is this thus?
The appropriation of some ten mil-
lion dollars by Congress for war ships
is so large an appropriation that it
justifies the fear among our patriots
that these funds are to be immediately
expended for immediate war; if so ex-
pended, a large lump thereof would
have to go abroad into foreign war-ship
builders' pockets. That is a direct at-
tack upon the pockets of our own "pa-
triotic" war-ship builders. The capital-
ist patriot's pocket contains not only
the plunder that is in it, it contains
also the plunder that he thinks he
should have. The ten million appropria-
tion for ships he considers his prop-
erty; has he not "worked" to get it by
fanning the flames of war? Not to get
it is to him an outrage. To spend any
of that appropriation abroad would be
such an "outrage"; and as the "ou-
trage" would be certain in case of im-
mediate war, his ardor for the immedi-
ate avenging of our honored dead has
considerably cooled. He now wants the
actual declaration of war set off a little
so as to give him time to gobble up the
whole appropriation.

The pockets of the capitalist class are
the seat of its "love for freedom." Its
"patriotism," its "religion," and all its
long catalogue of virtues. According as
its pockets, present or prospective of
profits, are affected so is the concrete
manifestation of its virtues.

The Social Revolution will indeed be
a purifying fire. Humanity is being
asphyxiated in the fumes of capitalist
immorality.

With the first issue of next April,
April 3, the price of THE PEOPLE will
be reduced from \$1 to 50 cents a year;
six months 25 cents; 3 months 15 cents;
single copies 2 cents.

Buffalo, N. Y.

Comrade Peter Steenmans, Jr., 52
Guilford street, has been elected agent
for THE PEOPLE.

All subscribers in arrears are request-
ed to kindly remit when called upon by
the new agent.

THE PEOPLE.

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York, N. Y., Post office, on April 4th, 1891.



SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1868 (Presidential)..... 2,088
In 1872 (Presidential)..... 12,331
In 1876 (Presidential)..... 21,157
In 1880 (Presidential)..... 22,123
In 1884 (Presidential)..... 36,564
In 1892 (Presidential)..... 55,673

The ancient "heathens," perhaps, excused the slavery of one man on the ground that it was a means to the full development of another. But to preach slavery to the masses in order that a few crude and half-educated upstarts might become "eminent spinners," "extensive sausage-makers," and "influential shoe-black dealers"—to do that they lacked the bump of "Christianity." Marx.

THAT "LEAVEN."

The attempt of the felon class that now rules the country to profit by the death of our ill-starred marines in the harbor of Havana by means of a war that shall cost many more workingmen's lives, has incidentally served a good purpose. It has served the purpose of so throwing our "illustrious patriots," together with their henchmen, off their guard that, in their headlong rush for war and martial pretences, they are here and there allowing quite valuable insight into the standard of the Americanism that their "patriotism" aspires at. One of these insights is afforded from official source.

The question of the nativity and quality of our marines having been raised, a high navy official expresses the opinion that the native American sailor has great alertness and adaptability; but that on the other hand the duller Briton is apt to have been trained in the school of deference to superiors and unreasoning obedience, which on the sea prove highly valuable. "Where the Yankee sailor," proceeds our "patriot" navy official, "knows all his rights, and knowing, dares maintain, the foreign-born sailor, ten chances to one, has never set his more sluggish mind to studying the laws of his own status; the same difference is to be observed in an even greater degree between Americans and sailors of any other northern nationality."

From these premises, our "patriot" navy official draws a conclusion that is worth marking. His conclusion is not that the soldier of a Republic, that is one in fact besides the name, can not too much "know his rights, and, knowing, dare maintain"; that an armed force of civilization can not too zealously steer away from and exclude units of a dull, obsequious and non-respecting character. No, our "patriot's" conclusion is the reverse. He says:

"While the native recruit, therefore, is always welcomed on the receiving-ship, the foreign-born citizen constitutes a VALUABLE LEAVEN to distribute throughout the lump, and all experienced naval officers recognize this fact."

We shall not here stop to probe the opinion that imputes to men, who, finding themselves tyrannized abroad, pull up stakes and flee to our shores, less love of freedom and character than to men who, born here, patiently submit to the indignities that the capitalist class and the Government inflict upon native and foreign citizens alike. We shall let that pass.

Not so, however, with the opinion that, instead of our native sailors (they "knowing their rights, and, knowing, dare maintain"), being used as a "valuable leaven" to raise the standard of our foreign-born citizens in the navy, the reverse should be the case, and our foreign-born citizens in the navy (they being "dull," "deferential" and of "unreasoning obedience") should be used as and constitute a "valuable leaven"—to do what? To lower the higher standard of the natives down to the level of the "deferential" and "unreasonably obedient" foreign citizen!

Who needed this admission to know what sort of civic virtue our "patriots" have in store for and aspire at in behalf of our peoples? None of any intelligence. Nevertheless, the admission is valuable.

Our ruling class "Americanism" means a "dull mass, deferential and of unreasoning obedience"; and its "patriotism" is to leaven our people DOWN to that level.

Wipe it out!

Mr. G. C. Clemens, of Topeka, Kans., is one of the curiosities of Kansas who claims to be a Socialist. He recently said that "Kansas is ripe for Socialism of any State in the Union." If this is so, what a commentary is not that fact upon Mr. Clemens' "Socialism." Surely the State ripest of any for So-

cialism should have at least as large a vote for the abolition of the capitalist system of wage slavery as any other of the less ripe. Yet what do we see? Not one, single, solitary vote recorded or cast in the "ripest of States" for the Socialist program! Every vote cast in Kansas is a vote for the principle of the private ownership of the land on and the capital with which to work, with all that that implies. The Kansas vote is divided between the gold bug capitalists and the Silver bug capitalists, both of whom fleece their workingmen and then treat them to the rifle diet. Not a vote is there cast in opposition to the principle that underlies such practices.

Or is Mr. Clemens' opinion that Kansas is ripe for Socialism based on the fact that he has got a political job from one of the two labor exploiting and oppressing parties of capital in his state? If that is the ground for his opinion we don't share it.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

The Covington, Ky., "Union Agent" must be to the local capitalists a darling after their own hearts. The illustration that its front page bears symbolizes the very thought that the capitalists have nearest to their hearts in their tactics to blind the workingman. The illustration represents a slick, boiled-shirted and stiff-collared, Prince-Albert-coated, four-in-hand-cravatted capitalist in fraternal handshake with an uncoated, uncollared and uncravatted workingman. How ideal is not this picture of the brotherly relations that exist between the Capitalist Class and the Working Class! How neatly does not this picture conceal the fact that the capitalist is a sponge on the worker and that the relations between the two are those of hostile classes! How well does not the picture aid the delusion that the worker's welfare depends upon the welfare of the idler, and thereby aid the false tactics of the former in suppressing the political struggle for his own class interests and serving as food for cannon in the struggle of its exploiters' class interests.

Surely the "Union Agent" deserves a big subvention from the capitalist class; but probably it gets only and is content with a bone;—these people always sell themselves very cheap.

We have more than once expressed the well-grounded suspicion that the water, recommended and indulged in by the New York "Voice" (Prohibitionist), must be heavily mixed with alcoholic essence. How else is this passage, proudly inserted in that paper's columns, to be explained:

"The son of an old soldier at a Prohibition meeting said, 'I don't want to be known as the son of a veteran. I want to be a veteran in some grand war for the right; hence I join your movement.'"

That son who considers a movement, headed by landsharks, note shavers, and the Treasurer of the Standard Oil Trust, a movement whose runners uphold and profit by a system that breeds drunkenness, prostitution, suicide, infanticide and all the other choice fruits of the capitalist tree,—that son who considers such a Pharisee movement a "grand war for the right," must be a fit candidate for Keely; nor would the knowing wonder if he, his "glorious" father and his inglorious editors speedily became "Keely graduates" with highest honors.

"Organized labor of the city of Detroit represents a consuming element of the community of not less than 50,000 souls. Now, if these 50,000 people were all to eat, and wear and use none but goods bearing the union label, bought from union clerks in the day time, what a tremendous impetus would be given the conditions which the union label represents. Our manufacturers that are now using the label would be kept running to their fullest capacity and the owners of others, seeing the advantage accruing to their competitors through this trade mark of free and well-paid labor, would be quick to adopt such conditions as would make its use by them possible. Every store would have union clerks and there would be a healthy rivalry among merchants to see which could carry the best assortment of label goods."

Is this passage dug out of some musty archive of quaint and ancient lore?

No! It is taken from a modern publication.

Is it then culled from some capitalist organ, anxious to cause the working class to persist in its illusions, and thus remain eternally a prey to the results of false tactics?

No! The passage is taken from the Detroit, Mich., "Retail Clerks' Gazette," a labor paper that surely does not mean to cheat the workers!

And yet, here is an instance where ignorance of facts and where false reasoning, tho' well-meaning, can accomplish the worst that fraudulent design can wish.

The label, especially in a large city, unaccompanied and unbacked-up by a class-conscious political movement of the working class, intended to overthrow the capitalist system, can accomplish nothing, except keeping the workers in false gaze. Workers who imagine the label alone could improve their condition, do not understand that, under the capitalist system the working class, organized and otherwise, is bound to get its necessities as cheaply as possible, because their wages must steadily decline; workers who do not understand that will politically uphold the capitalist system, thereby upholding the cause of a declining wage, thereby strengthening the necessity of looking for cheapness; and thereby destroy-

ing the effectiveness of the very thing they are striving for, to wit, the label. Such workers themselves scuttle their label.

On the other hand, the workers who understand that the seat and root of the trouble lies in the wage system of production, such men will push along to overthrow that system; being known to march and move intelligently, their wage-slaveholder will be intimidated, he will not dare to reduce wages as brazenly as he now does, he will rather reduce profits, and thus, the wages being protected, the power to enforce and derive benefit from the label would be strengthened.

The hopelessness of economic weapons of warfare or protection—such as labels, strikes, boycotts, etc.—unlinked with the weapon of class-conscious revolutionary political warfare, is an established fact. To still propose, and still recommend such weapons, and still pin hope upon them, as done by the "Retail Clerks' Gazette," is ignoring the teaching of experience, and sounds like a voice from the grave.

The following "news item" from the Newburgh, N. Y., "Sunday Telegram" is well calculated to remind one of the horse-laugh with which Bismarck (since sent kiting by the Socialist Labor party vote of Germany) greeted the 89 Socialist votes first cast in Berlin; it may also serve to illustrate the internationality of the capitalist stupidity:

"A Socialist labor organization with twelve or fourteen charter members has been formed at Fishkill Landing. Meetings will be held in the rear room of a public house on Main street on Thursday evening of each week. The promoter of the scheme for the de-throning of capitalists and corporations is a man from Newburgh who is blessed with only one eye, but with which lone-some organ he can see a great way ahead, in his mind. A well known insurance man was unanimously chosen chairman of the meeting on Thursday evening, Feb. 17th, and several of our prominent citizens were enrolled as charter members. The place for the manufacture of dynamite has not yet been selected, but it is said that several good sites are in the perspective. At the first meeting it was hard to elect a treasurer, the amount of responsibility being far too great to permit of anyone present permitting himself to assume the great burden of the office. I am told that the charter members only signed the documents in expectation of the tapping of a free keg of beer, but they were sadly disappointed, for when the meeting ended the Newburgh contingent silently 'moped' down to the ferry, and took the first boat home, leaving their thirsty friends and coadjutors a wondering croud behind. There is said to be 98 cents in the treasury."

How beautiful, how innocent withal, does not this from the New York "Evening Post" (Gold Bug Free Trader), sound:

"It surely cannot be many years before the people generally will recognize the necessity of applying principles of common sense to the civil service generally, both at home and abroad."

In view, however, of the fact that the Gold Bug Free Trade capitalist class, just the same as its doubles, the Silver Bug Free Trade, the Gold Bug Protectionist and the Silver Bug Protectionist capitalists, is lowering the wages of workingmen fathers and mothers, thereby depriving them of the opportunity to sending their children to school; in view of that whole capitalist classes' stinginess in school appropriations, depriving large numbers of the children of the poor from school room;—in view of all this, what the "Evening Post" actually means is this:

"It surely cannot be many years before our Civil Service Regulations will keep out of all offices worth holding all the children of the working class, and then only our children, the children of the children of the 'Evening Post' class will have a chance at the public crib."

This reasoning would not be incorrect were not the Socialist Labor party movement there, were not, consequently, the Social Revolution certain to head off the "Evening Post's" fellow crew.

The Cleveland, O., "Citizen," organ of the C. L. U. of that town, can not be blamed for the following exultation at the grave of a fake labor paper with which it has for some time been wrestling:

"The Chicago 'Eight-Hour Herald' is dead. With almost his last gasp it stated that the 'Citizen' is a dead duck because the mighty Gompers came to the rescue of the skate and fakir brigade of so-called labor papers that we have been making war on because of their disreputable tactics. It is in order for Mr. Gompers to send one of his famous sympathy letters to the proprietors of the dear departed, which was one of his warmest supporters."

What a ring of righteous and patriotic indignation is there not in these words of the Chicago, Ill., "Tribune":

"The time is past for conjectures as to whether there is to be war with Spain. There is war now. It will not commence when Congress declares war. It began when Spain blew up the Maine in the harbor of Havana. Any declaration of war that Congress may make will be merely an announcement that this country is ready to administer to the countrymen of Alva condign punishment for an act of perfidy more atrocious than any he ever committed."

And what a light is not thrown at the indignation, against the "countrymen of Alva" and the "act of perfidy more atrocious than any he ever committed," entertained by a capitalist paper that gloated at the judicial murder of innocent men in Chicago, whose only offense was that they had called an in-

dignation meeting over the cold-blooded assassination of workingmen on strike against the invention-thief McCormick! And what additional light is not thrown upon the "righteousness" of that paper's indignation by its present posture that condones the crime of Hazleton!

The indignation at wrongs indulged in by the capitalist press is the very quintessence of perfidy.

Fortunately, it is not the voice of perfidy alone that is raised from the press of the land. The Socialist Labor party's voice rings clear in the midst of the perfidious din that goes up from the capitalist press on the Cuban affair and all that thereby hangs.

The San Francisco, Cal., "New Charter" says well:

"Congress is rampant over a desire to 'free Cuba.' If war should be declared with Spain, where will the Congressmen be when the guns begin to roar? As far in the rear as they can get, heroically drawing their salaries. Where will the Cuban masses be when 'freed'? They will be subject to a new set of exploiters and will soon discover that a change of government does not mean a change of condition."

The Girard, Kans., "Appeal to Reason," in answer to questions from correspondents why it does not state point blank as it may think, what party the working people should vote for—the Socialist Labor party or the Debs "party"—declines to mention the party, and places its declination upon the ground that it refuses to "dictate" to people what party they should vote for, and that it prefers to "allow people to think for themselves, instead of assuming to think for them."

All of which forces forward the question, Why does the "Appeal to Reason" at all appear?

If, to express an opinion and argue for it, in the matter of what party should be preferred, the Socialist Labor party or the Debs party, is to "dictate" to others; if to do that implies a willingness to "assume to think for others"; if to do that implies a dictatorial readiness not to "allow people to think for themselves";—can it be considered less "dictatorial" to express an opinion and argue for it against: "Trusts," against the "Money Power," against the old parties, against Capitalism and in favor of Socialism? Surely not. If the "Appeal to Reason" were to practise its own theory that such expression of opinion and arguing for it is an interference with the freedom of others to think for themselves, then it should either stop publication altogether, or appear in four blank pages. But it does not. Extensively, vehemently, furiously it "goes for" "Trusts," etc., and declares for Socialism. What then does the "Appeal to Reason" mean by its theory?

What it really means is that it is ready to express its opinion and argue therefor in all matters on which it is, or imagines itself, clear: hence, upon "Trusts," "Money Power," "Capitalism," "Socialism," it hesitates not to express its views and stand for them, and induce others, by argument, to accept them; but that on the subject of the Debs "party" it is not at all clear, and therefore wishes to withhold its judgment. Such an attitude might be open to the charge of lack of fitness to participate in the national debate now going on; but, if frankly admitted, would be free from the charge of unfairness that it is now open to, by seeking to hide the fact behind insinuations against others.

Not being frank enough to admit that it lacks the knowledge to enable it to size up the Debs "party," the "Appeal to Reason" seeks to conceal its ignorance behind the mask of "democracy," and, in pursuit of its skulking course, it is ready to go to the length of falsely imputing a "dictatorial" spirit to the S. L. P. for not doing in this respect, what the "Appeal to Reason" does not do in all others,—to "allow people to think for themselves."

This is all there is in the "fair play," "democratic" theory behind which the "Appeal to Reason" seeks to shelter itself. The fact, however, involves a much more important point. It illustrates the habitual unfairness in methods on the part of all those who disagree with the tactics of the S. L. P.

The point is well illustrated by the "Appeal to Reason's" theory or excuse for not uttering itself pro or con on the S. L. P. and the Debs "party."

The following squib from the Johnston, R. I., "Beacon" condenses, into a few lines, volumes of valuable information on matters that are of prime importance to the wage slave in picking his way out of the labyrinth of false teachings that surround him:

"Capital is the creation of labor, although the laborer is the slave of the capitalist. Labor produces capital and the capitalist secures it by robbing the laborer and making him his slave. If the laborer received in wages the full product of his toil there would be no such thing as capitalists, and profit, interest and rent would be unknown. But instead, under present conditions, the laborer produces, first, enough to pay his own wages, second, enough to replace the capital used up in the process, and then a balance equal to one-half or two-thirds of the total product which the capitalist retains as profits in return for the part he does not play in the production of wealth. So, the laborer not only pays his own wages and the profits of his masters, but actually reproduces the capital used."



UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Brother Jonathan—I have become positively proud of our Government. Of late I was beginning to feel inclined to look upon it as you Socialists do. But you are off. Likewise are you off in the opinion you hold of our capitalist class. It and the Government are not neglectful of the poor; least of all are they neglectful of our soldiers. See how unanimous is the feeling among them of indignation at the foul murder committed upon our marines by Spain in the harbor of Havana. Our Government and our capitalists are now, as they always have been, thoughtful of the weak and the honor of our soldiers. Uncle Sam—"Always," is good indeed!

B. J.—Yes, ALWAYS. When were they not?

U. S.—How old are you?

B. J.—Sixty.

U. S.—Then you were a pretty big chunk of a liddle when our Civil war was on.

B. J.—I was.

U. S.—And you know all about it?

B. J.—I do; and right royally were our soldiers treated.

U. S.—Did you ever hear about the Legal Tender Act of '62?

B. J.—Don't remember that particularly.

U. S.—Well, this was the situation. The Greenback had depreciated greatly; so much that it took \$2.85 in Greenbacks to buy what \$1 in coin did.

B. J.—What have we got to do with the money question? I thought you Socialists claim the money question has nothing to do with the Labor Question.

U. S.—And so it hasn't. But the conduct of our capitalists and its Government at that time throws some little light upon their attitude towards that part of the working class that was fighting the Union's battles.

Well, then, the Greenback was greatly depreciated; business was hurt thereby because of the insecurity of prices that accompanies such discrepancy in the purchasing power of current money. Thereupon the Legal Tender Act was passed—

B. J.—And did that hurt the soldiers' interests?

U. S.—It did, as you will see. By reason of this disparity, the Legal Tender Act provided that the credit notes, or the Greenbacks of the Government, were not to be legal tender in the payment of the interest on the United States bonds—

B. J.—Now, again, I am less able to understand you. Don't you, Socialists claim that money must have intrinsic value—

U. S.—Or be redeemable in intrinsic value; and we add that that is the pest that attaches to all money under the capitalist system—

B. J.—Very well; then where is the wrong in legislating for a payment of debts with intrinsic value or coin?

U. S.—None whatever, provided they had legislated the Greenback clean out of its legal tender power. And herein lies the point. Our capitalist class and Government legislated the depreciated Greenback out of legal tender power ONLY in the interest of the capitalist class, and left the legal tender power sticking to that depreciated Greenback in all transactions where they were debtors themselves—

B. J.—You don't say!

U. S.—Keep cool, because, if there is any feeling in you, you will be boiling hot before I get through with my story, and show you how these capitalists love our soldiers.

Well, then, by the Legal Tender Act payments due on the bonds had to be made in coin; most other payments could be made in Greenbacks.

The soldiers' salary was not a payment of interest on bonds; consequently the soldier could be and was paid, not in coin, but in Greenbacks.

The soldiers' pay was \$13 a month. But as he was paid in Greenbacks with a purchasing power that was at a discount of \$1.85, the soldiers did not get \$13, but only \$4.56—that being the purchasing power of the \$13 in Greenback that they got;—

B. J.—Thunder!

U. S.—Accordingly our "soldier-loving" capitalists protected themselves; they saw to it that when, in payment of the interest on their bonds they got a thing called ONE DOLLAR, that thing should not have the purchasing power of only about one-third of a dollar; they saw to it that by their law, every time they received thirteen things called dollars, those thirteen things should have the purchasing power of \$13, not the purchasing power of only \$4.56. But the soldier they left out in the cold.

B. J.—The devil, you say!

U. S.—They protected themselves by law against the economic law of capital that reduced the purchasing power of the Greenback; but the soldier who was in the front, who was bleeding, dying, or undermining his health for life so as to keep up the very Government on whose existence the payments to those capitalists depended,—that soldier was left out in the cold. The "soldier-loving" capitalist, who stayed at home protected himself with the aid of the Government, but the soldier was left exposed to the working of that economic law.

B. J.—The devil, I say again!

U. S.—And what is more, that soldier was doubly cheated. They pretended to pay him \$13 and gave him only \$4.56. Now, Sir, what say you to your theory about the Socialists' being wrong?

B. J.—I drop it; I never knew that!

U. S.—So don't make a fool of yourself now. The capitalists and their Government live upon the working class like hyenas.

In time of peace, they live upon the working class in the shops, mills, fac-

ories, railroad yards, mines, etc.; and in time of war they live upon the working class whom they enlist, or draft, or cajole into the ranks.

Whether in the soldier's uniform or the workman's blouse, the proletariat is used by the capitalist class and its government as cattle. It cheats them right and left, passes laws in its own behalf; swindles them out of their pay; and uses their very misfortunes as a pretext for Pharisaic indignation on which to perpetrate some more swindle upon them.

Tat you were ready to be taken in by their false pretences shows only how effective their tactics of rascality are.

A VARIETY INTERLUDE.

[By J. LESLIE in London, Eng., Justice.]

Scene: A Castle, apparently in the air. Enter various personages, male and female, in dramatic attitudes. They group themselves artistically, and then all sing, to the inspiring air of "Dunum-a-doo!"

Behold! There now before you stand
The elect of Democracy;
Who represent on English land
The latest Aristocracy.
Mark our genteel exterior,
Our picked and choice variety,
We're Socialists superior—
The Fabian Society.

Then they all dance round to a melody,
In which the strains of "Rule Britannia" can be distinctly heard, with a faint suspicion of the "Marseillaise," while a microphone MIGHT enable one to trace a fragment of the "Carmagnole." They resume:—

We've stranded Marx upon the rocks,
With scarce, of rag, a relic on;
And who dare bark? Shall dunghill cocks

Confront the dazzling Helicon?
In very truth we do believe—
Believe it, in all plety—
'Twas Nature's utmost to conceive
The Fabian Society.

Here they all execute a dance of wonder
at each other's abilities, and the dance closes with a breakdown. They resume:—

Good British Trade, attention pay;
We undertake to vitalize;
So Pauca Verba when we say,
Our motto is to socialize,
Throw Revolution to the dogs,
Hi-tiddy-hi-tiddy-ty,
We're statesmen and not demagogues—
The Fabian Society.

Here ensues a ceremony of adulation, in which they all worship a figure with a face like the sun, with spots on it. They resume:—

The lion of the S. D. F.
May treat us with scornfully;
The Oracle of old was deaf
When taunted with futility.
Our battle-cry, "On, Stanley, on;
Enhance our notoriety;
Shine, spotted sun, shine out upon
The Fabian Society."

Here they all dance a garland, and the changes are so quick and complicated that it is hard to tell one dancer from another. They resume:—

We all things are—but most are fond
In manner Daily Chronicle
Of posing as a new Glorinde.
Though Hyndman smiles sardonically.

No criticism e'er can jar
Our sense of self-propriety,
We are, we are, we are,
The Fabian Society.

Here they all fixedly regard each other, and then suddenly vanish, to typify that they are lost—in admiration of one another. The stage then represents, so far as it can be made to do so, an Historical Vacuum. Gradually there emerges an enlarged doll's house, on the chimney of which sits a magpie, who croaks "Arma Virumque Cano!" Then a tall figure comes from behind the house, and advancing to the footlights with an air of Aristotelian Omniscience, sings:

"Though men may come and men may go."

The phrase is Tennysonian,
I'm always here, that men may know
The Fabian's Jeonavian.
Exploiters all, I bear the balm,
To heal your sore anxiety,
I am, I am, I am,
The Fabian Society.

The curtain falls amidst thunders of applause from the higher-priced parts of the house, while the occupants of the pit and gallery look at each other and wonder what the devil it is all about.

LETTER BOX.

Offhand Answers to Inquirers.

H. B. H., Chicago.—You being nearer to "Headquarters" (we know you will smile, but we shall call it "Headquarters") ought to have better means to ascertain than we. That Debs party being a one man affair, does not publish its financial resources; we have no way to ascertain whence its funds come to pay the traveling expenses of its agitators. But this we know that at least Mr. Debs' railroad fare cost him nothing. He travels on passes. How this comes about we don't know; it is curious, but we have no time to inquire.

B. W., Holyoke, Mass.—Read the report on the first page of this issue from New Bedford.

M. L. W., Lynn, Mass.—James Carey, of Haverhill, should long ago have been fired out of the party; but the party's tolerance is great. He is economically, a concealed ignoramus and has long been a breeder and retailer of slander against the party and its most esteemed members; that yarn about Comrade Matchett, our '96 Presidential candidate, having marched in a McKinley parade, is an instance in point, that illustrates the man's viciousness and stupidity. The experience made with him is wholesome; the party has learned a lesson. He should join Gordon et al. in the "Social Democracy," they are birds of a feather.

N. N., Cleveland, O.—No, thank you.

(Continued.)

Of the above cities, Berlin, Hamburg, Altona, Leipzig, Francfort and Stettin were in a minor state of siege. In other districts, where the minor state of siege was also in force, the result was not less significant, as appears from the following figures:

Districts.	1878.	1890.	Districts.	1878.	1890.
Niederbarnim	2,775	13,362	Lauenburg	347	2,072
Charlottenburg	4,763	19,169	Leipzig (rural)	11,253	30,127
Potsdam-Spandau	?	3,977	Offenbach-on-Maine	5,557	10,343
Hamburg	1,763	6,860	Spremburg	1,242	5,610
Ottensen-Pinneberg	5,453	10,820			

Nor was this all. A fact of still greater import remains to be noted. In 1887 the Social-Democracy occupied the fifth place among the political parties

[The End].

Comrade Golden, of Section Baltimore, was elected chairman, and Comrade Pierce, of Washington, acted as secretary. After approving the action of the several Sections in locating the State Committee at Washington, the convention proceeded to consider plans for agitation. Owing to the probable financial ability of the Sections of Maryland and Washington to keep an organizer permanently in the field, it was decided to instruct the State Committee of Virginia for the purpose of determining if an agreement could not be reached whereby the Comrades in Maryland, Virginia and Washington would guarantee enough weekly subscriptions to keep an organizer permanently at the business of instructing the working class in those two States in the principles of Socialism, the organizer to devote half of his time to each State.

Regular meeting of the General Committee of Section Greater New York,

WORKINGMEN! Attend this Free Lecture and learn the opinions of an able socialist speaker, upon your industrial condition. We socialists, are not dogmatic in our views, neither are we afraid of questions or discussions, hence questions will be allowed and a free discussion will be permitted.

WORKINGMEN, come in your numbers to learn if you are sympathetic, to debate if you are not.

From April 1, 1898,

the Subscription price of THE PEOPLE will be reduced to

50 Cents a Year,

6 months, 25 Cents.

Single copies, 2 Cents.

Subscribers, who have paid in advance, will get their terms prolonged or can have two copies sent till subscription expires. In case the latter is wanted, INFORM US.

Subscribers, who on April 1st are in arrears, will be stricken.

Comrades! Here is your chance to enlarge the circulation of THE PEOPLE. Use the opportunity!

S. L. P. will be held on Saturday, March 12th, 8 P. M., at the Labor Lyceum, 61 East Fourth street, New York. Delegates should not fail to attend.

For the General Committee, L. ABELSON, Organizer.

West Side Districts. Free lectures on Socialism, every 2nd and 4th Sunday, 8 P. M., at Narragansett Hotel, 456 W. 40th street.

Programme of lectures for March and April 1898:

March 13.....St. Simon and Babouf Lecturer, James Allman.

March 27.....Why we endorse the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance.

Lecturer, Thomas Hickey.

April 10.....China and Capitalism Lecturer, Chas. Matchett.

April 24.....The Proletariat Lecturer, A. S. Brown.

Questions will be answered after the lecture, but must be confined to the subject.

Lectures in German every 1st and 3rd Sunday at the West Side Union Hotel, 342 West 42nd street.

New York Socialist Cycle Club was organized Saturday, March 5th, at 64 E. 4th street, with 15 members. It purposes to spread Socialist agitation.

Temporary officers were elected. The election of permanent officers will take place on Saturday, March 12th, 8 P. M. Comrades asked to join.

ALB. DELZ, Sec'y.

Socialist Labor Party, 18th Assembly District of Greater New York. Sunday evening lectures, free to everybody, at Stuyvesant Hall, 351 East 17th street, near 1st avenue, New York city.

Business meeting every Thursday, 8 p. m., at 246 1st avenue, between 14th and 15th streets. Come and join.

Programme of lectures for March:

March 13—"Origin of the Capitalist System." N. T. Stone.

March 20—"The Proletariat." A. S. Brown.

March 27—"The Morals of Our Age." S. Herlin.

Lectures commence promptly at 8 p. m.

Questions will be answered after the lecture, but must be confined to the subject.

Brooklyn.—Lectures and discussions on political, social and economic questions every Sunday evening, 8 p. m., at Club House, 887 Myrtle avenue.

March 13—"Trades Unions." B. Hughes.

March 20—"Foot Pounds." Ch. Teche.

March 27—"The Proletariat." A. S. Brown.

Questions will be answered after the lecture, but must be confined to the subject.

GLOVERSVILLE.—In order to enlarge the circulation of THE PEOPLE and to make our friends and sympathizers acquainted with purely scientific Socialism and the uncompromising tactics of the S. L. P., our Section decided to send for four weeks to a number of addresses our party organ. This is at the same time an invitation to subscribe. Some one of our party members will call on the receivers at the end of this month. Orders will also be taken any evening in the Labor Lyceum, 8 Fremont street.

Tuesday, March the 22nd, Lucien Sanial, of New York, will give a lecture in Gloversville. The name of the hall where he speaks will be published in next week's issue, also the subject. Admission is free to all.

Buffalo, N. Y.

The monthly joint meeting of the Section Buffalo, S. L. P., will be held this Sunday, March 13, at 2:30 p. m., in Labor Lyceum, 550 Broadway. The important business to be transacted requires the presence of every member of all branches.

In the evening of the same day, at 8 P. M. sharp, the American Branch S. L. P. will hold in the same hall a discussion meeting. Subject: "The Cuban Question from a Socialist Standpoint." Everybody welcome.

For the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the revolutions of 1848, and of the 27th anniversary of the Paris Commune, the Central Committee, S. L. P., has arranged a grand ball, with lectures, singing, dancing, etc., to be held Saturday, March 19th, at 8 P. M., in Miller's Harmonia Hall, 264 Genesee street. For the English lecture is secured our veteran Comrade Lucien Sanial, of New York. The German speaker will be Comrade K. Isen, of Cleveland, O. Tickets, admitting gentleman and lady, 25 cents. Whoever of our Buffalo comrades and friends has not got those tickets yet, not only for their own use, but for sale, should get them at the Labor Lyceum as soon as possible.

Pennsylvania.

BLAIR COUNTY, March 4.—It will be of some interest to the comrades throughout the land to know that, al-

though very quiet, yet Blair County Section is not dead altogether. One not acquainted with the conditions here, does not know the difficulty which confronts the movement in this inland town wholly controlled by the P. R. R.; but in spite of the apparently insurmountable obstacles the comrades have shaken themselves from their lethargy and adopted the tactics of activity.

Sunday, the 20th of February, we had Comrade John R. Root, of Pittsburgh, here, the announcement being only a verbal one exceeded our most sincere expectations. He spoke of the necessity of a class-conscious political organization before they can ever hope of bettering their conditions and finally emancipate themselves from wage-slavery. Comrade Root has a pleasing appearance and is an able expounder of the cause; the applause that he received showed that his speech was very much appreciated by the audience; three new members being the result of the meeting. During the five years Section Blair County has been in existence, not a line to my knowledge has ever appeared in THE PEOPLE as to our progress, or retrogress would be more proper, for we have experienced them both. Here especially the work of agitation has been done, and the expenses borne by a small band of faithful workers. We appeal to the friends who have received the truth and knowledge of Socialism to abandon their petty prejudices that keep them away from the meetings and show themselves up in their true color, to come to our aid in this our struggle for emancipation. Now is the time you are needed, the party cannot afford to lose one convert. You have not forgotten the wrongs that were perpetrated on one of our most able and active comrades during the Presidential campaign when he was discharged and forced to face very risky conditions with his family—starve or steal—but was successful in getting another job after some months of worry in idleness, for simply being a Socialist. Such hideous outrages committed by the hypocritical "law and order" capitalist class should serve as a spur to work more energetically and more indefatigably for the overthrow of the capitalist system with all its wrong-doings and injustices. We have arranged matters with the State Committee on a lecture tour by Comrade Mrs. Martha Moore Avery. Sections throughout the State should take an interest in this grand opportunity.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

General Executive Board, S. T. & L. A.

At the last meeting August Waldinger was chairman.

A committee from the Hat Makers' Union, Newark, N. J., was granted the floor and stated that they had reorganized and they desired the old charter. They have a membership of 150 at present.

Granted.

A committee representing the Local Joint Executive Board of Ind. Bakers' Unions appeared relative to the label. They claimed that many thousands of labels issued by D. A. No. 8, were still unused, and that the plates for the S. T. & L. A. label were quite expensive.

It was resolved to notify the L. J. E. B. that under present circumstances the G. E. B. was bound by the referendum vote recently had on the label, and that no doubt the next convention would settle the matter.

A committee from the Prog. Rolled Cigarette Makers' Union was admitted relative to the label. They acquiesced in the use of the G. E. B. label, and same was granted.

It was announced that the speech of Comrade De Leon to the New Bedford strikers would be published in pamphlet form and orders should be forwarded.

The matter of the next Convention was then broached, and it was decided to proceed to nominate cities in which to hold the same. New York was nominated, but withdrawn. Then followed Buffalo, N. Y., Philadelphia, Pa., and Newark, N. J. On vote both Buffalo and Philadelphia were ordered to a referendum vote. A discussion ensued as to date. May, June, July 4th, and September 19th being named. On vote July 4th and September 19th were ordered to a referendum. July 4th was proposed, because it being a holiday, less time is lost. September 19th was proposed, because of cooler weather. The referendum vote on city and date must be in by May 5th, 1898.

The secretary was further instructed to begin his yearly report.

N. Y. Central Labor Federation, D. A. No. 1, invited the G. E. B. to its Ninth Anniversary on March 13th, at 5:30 P. M., 64 E. 4th street. Accepted.

Charters were granted the United Broad Silk Weavers' Union, Silk City Mixed Alliance, Paterson, N. J., and German Bohemian Textile Alliance, New Bedford, Mass.

Jere O'Fihelley, Abington, Mass.; John F. Conley, Pittsburg, Pa.; James Waugh, Blocton, Ala.; R. A. Statham, Cardiff, Jefferson Co., Ala.; Geo. Webb, New Decatur, Ala.; and Alex. B. McCulloch, Manchester, Va., requested organizing material.

A complaint of the N. Y. German Cooks and Pastry Cooks to the N. Y. Central Labor Federation, D. A. No. 1, because they alleged that their members were not employed at the N. Y. Volks-Zeitung festival, had been referred to the G. E. B. It was resolved to request the Board of Directors of said paper, to in future also contract for the employment of those members at festivals.

Very interesting letters were read from Alb. Schmitz, Louisville, Ky., and L. A. will be organized there shortly.

Peter Schwiete, St. Louis, Mo., requested by instruction of the State Committee S. L. P., the use of the label on a publication called "Arm and Hammer." He was informed that the employees would have to organize a L. A. or join one of the existing Mixed Alliances before the label could be granted.

M. Weber, Buffalo, N. Y., reported good progress; and that he will speak on March 19th at Erie, and try to organize a L. A. He will also try to reorganize the Section, S. L. P. The employees of the Polish party paper "Silk" joined the Mixed Alliance and a member-at-large was accordingly transferred. The said paper was granted the label of the S. T. & L. A.

N. Y. Central Labor Federation, D. A. No. 1, reported that its Arbitration Committee had made strenuous efforts to organize the employees of Leopold Miller & Son, Cigarette Makers of the "Leroy" brand, but failed. They had consequently declared the concern as non-union and desired the action endorsed. Granted.

Geo. Dubois, Albany, N. Y., reported that the organization is making good progress.

M. Keller, D. A. 12, Philadelphia, Pa., reported good progress, and that an agitation is being pushed among the leather workers at Gloversville and Johnstown, N. Y.

Henry Wehner, D. A. No. 10, Boston, Mass., reported that D. A. No. 8 had donated \$10 to the New Bedford weavers, and Bakers' and Confectioners' L. A. No. 2, \$25.

Tailors' Prog. Union No. 11, N. Y., donated \$5 for the same purpose.

Shirt Ironers and Laundry Workers, Philadelphia, Pa., desired to rejoin the S. T. & L. A., and this was granted.

The "Home Study Publications" of Scranton, Pa., requested a list of unions. This was not acceded to.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, March 16, 8 P. M., 61 E. 4th street.

D. A. No. 1.

Delegate J. Langhard, of the Progress Club, was chairman at last Sunday's meeting of the N. Y. Central Labor Federation, D. A. No. 1, S. T. & L. A., and delegate L. Pomrantz, of the Pressmen and Feeders' Union, was vice-chairman.

A complaint by C. Perenz against Walters' Alliance Liberty for expelling him was referred to a special committee for investigation.

International Pianomakers' Union sent John Kohnman as a delegate. The Credentials Committee reported unfavorably, because the candidate acknowledged to be a member of the Democratic party. The report was sustained and the credentials referred back to the union.

N. Y. Socialist Literary Society invited the body to attend its Masked Ball on March 19th, at Webster Hall. While the invitation was accepted, the Society was notified that the hall was non-union.

Gen. Ex. Board, S. T. & L. A., notified the body relative to the committee's decision in the appeal of Walters' Alliance Liberty and endorsing the same.

Arbitration Committee reported that baker boss Kruse promised to send his workmen to the Union during this week, and hence action was deferred until next Sunday.

Organization Committee reported making good progress.

Empire City Lodge, Machinists, reported donating \$2 to the New Bedford strikers.

Arrangements Committee for the Ninth Anniversary celebration of this body, this Sunday, reported that the Carl Salm Club had offered an orchestra of 12 men. All unions are requested to forward their flags with pole during the week to 64 E. 4th street.

Carl Salm Club reported having furnished an orchestra gratis for the mass meeting of the Working Women's Society, at the Grand Central Palace. They donated \$5 to the New Bedford strikers. Three members were expelled for violation of the constitution.

THE DAILY PEOPLE

\$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to February 9th, 1898.

\$4,575.

The following amounts have been paid down to March 20, 1898, incl.:

Previously acknowledged: Patrick Murphy, Brooklyn, N. Y., \$10; Thos. O'Shaughnessy, Brooklyn, N. Y., \$6. Total \$16.00

Total \$4,575.00

Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE.
184 William St., N. Y.

Bartenders' Union No. 1 reported that its Secretary Paul Reichenbecker had called upon boss Krieger, 231 E. 33rd street, who retracted his utterances against union labor in writing.

Walters' Alliance Liberty reported that they had expelled a member for being in arrears with dues and for violation of the constitution.

Int. Pianomakers' Union reported that arrangements will be made this week to organize the Bronx Borough. The collections for the New Bedford strikers are to be called in. The prospect is that \$25 have been realized.

Silver Workers' Prot. Ass. reported that they have called in the subscription lists for Friday night. According to short reports something like \$30 will accumulate.

Pressmen and Feeders' Union initiated new members. \$10 were donated to the "Neue Zeit."

Prog. Typographical Union No. 83 donated \$20 to the "Neue Zeit."

United Marquette Workers will hold an important meeting Monday at 61 E. 4th street, and the Secretary is requested to attend.

Prog. Rolled Cigarette Makers' Union reported that 17 members who refused to obey the decision and not make cigars at the strike factory of Sidenberg were summarily expelled. It was also announced that these expelled members had organized an opposition union under the tuition of boss Sidenberg. He should ask the aid of Leopold Miller. Relative to the trouble in Sidenberg's shop and for the purpose of protecting the interest of the Prog. Rolled Cigarette Makers' Union, delegates E. Bohm, A. Waldinger and P. Lustig were elected a special committee.

The chairman thereupon presented the banner won by the Bohemian Butchers' Union to its delegate who received same with thanks and stated that its first public display would be at the Ninth Anniversary celebration of the C. L. F.

Swedish Machinists' Union reported that it will call in its subscription lists for the New Bedford strikers and report next meeting.

United Macaroni Workers reported making good progress.

During the debate on the Workmen's Educational Society non-union employees a member of Bartender Union No. 1 named J. Nicholas stated that he was employed at same place until it was found out that he had joined the above union. Then he was discharged. The organizations were again urged not to buy any shares or donate monies to that Society.

D. A. 49.

The regular meeting of D. A. 49 was held on Friday evening, March 4th, with D. M. W. Daniel De Leon at the capitol.

Roll call showed all officers present, except Worthy Foreman Murphy who was detailed to the mass meeting of the Knitting Workers and Outside Esquire Kops who was detailed to the Shoe Fitters' meeting.

Credentials received from Fred Guilmann, Bakers' Union, L. A. 81, and Wm. Clough, Broad Silk Weavers. They were admitted and obligated.

Reports of officers:

D. M. W. reported having spoken at a mass meeting of Broad Silk Weavers on Thursday evening, Feb. 24th, and at the conclusion a local of that industry was organized. Had also organized three locals of weavers in New Bedford, Mass.

District Secretary reported he had attended meetings of the West Side Agitation Committee, and they will arrange for a mass meeting in the near future, and expect to organize a trade or mixed local. Received word from the Glove Cutters' Union, who would like to have an English and German speaker to explain the aims and objects of the Alliance.

Distributed circulars for the Pioneer Alliance, who would hold a meeting for shoeworkers on March 5th. Had succeeded in settling the strike of S. Well's factory, where members of L. A.'s 122, 298 and 2394 were out. The lasters receive an advance of 25 per cent, and sewers 20 per cent, notwithstanding the fact that Organizer Clark, of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, interfered, and a number of members of his organization applied for positions. A more detailed account of this trouble will appear later. Had attended the mass meeting of the Longshoremen and Seamen's Union, with Comrades Murphy and Lissauer, who explained the aims and objects of the Alliance. McHugh and Wilson, of the American Longshoremen's Union, who had been challenged to debate, failed, as usual with men of that stamp, to put in an appearance. This union will hold a meeting on March 6th to consider the advisability of applying for a charter to the S. T. & L. A.

Secretary requested that the district take steps to create a special fund for agitation purposes.

Communications received from Riverside Association, L. A. 43, of Yonkers, referred to the Secretary with instructions to go to Yonkers on Monday evening. One from Shoe Fitters' Union requesting information on the S. T. & L. A. Secretary had sent Comrade Kaps to their meeting to give the desired information. One from Comrade Moren, of the City Ex. Com. of the S. L. P., in answer to inquiry of the Secretary. Referred to Comrade Vogt to make report at our next meeting, when further action will be taken. One from Ernest Bohm, Secretary of D. A. No. 1, in relation to Joint D. A. meetings, wherein

they deny being responsible for their locals voting against the meetings of the Joint D. A.'s. Received and filed. One from L. A. 2394 inviting the delegates to their ninth annual ball on Sat. evening, March 12, at Baumgartner's Military Hall, corner Leonard and Scholes streets, Brooklyn. Received and accepted. One from Musical Protective Alliance, L. A. 1028, complaining against Carl Salm and Progressive Musical Union of Brooklyn, who failed to attend the meetings of the Joint Executive Board of the musical locals, which had been established by the G. E. B. Secretary instructed to bring the matter before the G. E. B. One from Comrade Chas. Wicklen, requesting the Secretary to call at the West Side Union Hotel on Feb. 28th. Attended to by the Secretary.

Secretary was instructed to write to the G. E. B. and inquire what district the Prog. Musical Union, L. A. 115, was affiliated with.

Secretary was instructed to look for a hall for the district to hold meetings in, as the present place was too small to hold the delegates.

On motion it was resolved to request the locals and members of the same to contribute to a fund for agitation purposes.

L. A. No. 11 reported that they had held a mass meeting on Feb. 28, which was well attended.

Had contributed \$5 to the New Bedford strikers and \$3 to the May Day conference.

L. A. 68 contributed \$2 to the May Day conference, and appointed a committee to act with committee from L. A. 11 to visit the Journeymen Tailors.

L. A. 81, Bakers' Union, had voted for an interchange of cards with the International Bakers' Union.

L. A. 122, Shoe Lasters, reported they had contributed \$3 to the May Day conference.

L. A. 109, Pioneer Alliance, elected delegates to the May Day conference. Will hold a mass meeting on March 5th for shoeworkers. Expect soon to organize the railroad men as the locals in the K. of L. are no earthly use. D. M. W. Collins, of D. A. 75, K. of L., who had hobnobbed around the political parties during the last campaign endorsing first one and then another, sent a committee to the Mayor and the Corporation Council requesting them to see that the ordinance regulating the speed of the trolley cars was not violated. This was enforced at the expense of the employees. They were compelled to work overtime for which they did not receive extra pay. Collins then called on the officers of the trolley company, stating that they were very well satisfied with the company, and to complain about the men having to work overtime, and Mr. Johnson told him to withdraw the complaint from the Corporation Council and the men could get through on time though they had to violate that ordinance. The complaint was withdrawn.

L. A. 298, N. Y. Shoemakers, reported that their members were well satisfied with the settlement of the strike in Weil's factory. They had also gained a number of new members.

Bronx Borough Labor Club reported that they had been disappointed in the speaker for the 28th. He failed to attend. They will hold an agitation meeting on March 14th for railroad men. Comrade Vogt was detailed to speak there.

L. A. 111 reported that their mass meeting was a grand success. They gained twelve new members. They will hold a mass meeting uptown and request a German, Bohemian and English speaker. Secretary was instructed to take notice.

United Broad Silk Weavers reported progress and expect large increase in membership at their meeting on the 9th.

L. A. 1563, Excelsior Labor Club, initiated six new members. Elected delegates to the May Day conference. Will hold an entertainment and reception in the N. Y. Labor Lyceum on April 16th. Next meeting will be held at 23 Duane street on March 9th.

L. A. 1028 increasing in membership, and hope that the district will see that the trouble with the musical unions is settled one way or the other.

L. A. 2394, Goodyear Turn and Welt Shoemakers, reported initiating new members, and that the superintendent of one of the large factories in Brooklyn was trying to win the members away from the union by establishing a sick and death benefit association. They do not think he will succeed.

W. L. BROWER, Secy.

DR. C. L. FURMAN,
DENTIST,

121 SCHERMERHORN ST., BROOKLYN, N. Y.

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THE SOCIALISTS' BALL

18th Assembly District, S. L. P.,
will be held at

Webster Hall, 121-125 E. 11th St.,
Monday, March 16, '98,
St. Patrick's Eve.

Tickets.....25 Cents
Make it a Success!

Sociable and Hop
-OF THE-

15th & 17th Assembly Dist's,
S. L. P. -AT-

Schützen
AND
Sänger Hall,
-ON-

Saturday Evening,
March 12, 8 P. M.

Comrade JAS. ALLMAN will deliver a little speech.

Tickets 10 Cents. Hat Check 10 Cents.
Various prizes will be given away.

Bicyclists, Attention!

All cyclists of the S. L. P. and readers of THE PEOPLE are invited to attend a meeting of the Socialist Cycle Club to be held on

March 12th, at 64 E. 4th Street,
where an election of Officers will be held and applications for membership will be received.

ALBERT DELZ, Sec'y,
219 West 18th St.

Trades and Societies Calendar

Standing advertisements of Trades Unions and other Societies (not exceeding five lines) will be inserted under this heading hereafter at the rate of \$5.00 per annum.

Organizations should not lose such an opportunity of advertising their places of meeting.

Carl Salm Club (Musicians Union). Meetings every Tuesday at 10 a. m., at 64 East 4th street, New York Labor Lyceum. Business Secretary: Fred.

Central Labor Federation of New York (S. T. & L. A., D. A. No. 1). Meets at 2:30 every Sunday afternoon at 64 East 4th street, New York City. All bona-fide trade and labor unions should be represented. Communications are to be sent to the corresponding Secretary, Ernest Bohm, 64 East 4th street, New York City.

Cigarmakers' Progressive International Union No. 90. Office: 64 East 4th street, New York City. District I (Bohemian), 334 East 1st street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.; District II (German), at 213 Furey St., meets every Saturday at 8 p. m.; District III, meets at 1247 Avenue A, every Saturday at 8 p. m.; District IV, meets at 342 West 42nd street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.; The Board of Supervisors meets every Tuesday at 1422 2nd avenue, at 8 p. m.

Empire City Lodge (Machinists), meets every 2d and 4th Wednesday evening at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street. Secretary: PETER STAPLE.

German Walters' Union of New York. Office: 385 Bowery, Union Hall, 1st floor. Meetings every Friday evening at 8 p. m. Board of Supervisors meets every Wednesday at 4 p. m. at the same hall.

Musical Protective Alliance No. 1028. D. A. 49, S. T. & L. A., Headquarters 79 E. 4th street. Meetings every Friday at 8 o'clock noon. Fred. Hartmann, Pres.; Fred. Wohl, Cor. Sec'y, 79 E. 4th St. J. S. Klags, Business agent.

Section Essex County, S. L. P.,